just *because I* was told and without conviction, and I have failed miserably and have had to go back to my own way.

" Climax is reached not only by rush but by increasing pace. Your exit speech is a failure at present, because you do not vary the pace of its delivery. Get by yourself for one half-hour—if you can ! Get by the seaside, if you can, since there it was Demosthenes studied eloquence and overcame mountains—not mole-hills like this. Being by the seaside, study those lines by themselves : ' And then let them find their young gentleman, and find him quickly, for London shall not hold me long—no, nor England either.*

" Study to speak these lines with great volubility and fire, and settle the exact syllable to run at."

I remember that Reade, with characteristic generosity, gave me ten pounds and sent me to the seaside in earnest, as he suggests my doing, half in fun, in the letter. " I know you won't go otherwise," he said, " because you want to insure your life or do something of that sort. Here ! go to Brighton—go anywhere by the sea for Sunday. Don't thank me I It's all for Philippa."

As I read these notes of his on anti- climax, monotony of pace, and all the other offences against scientific principles of acting which I committed in this one part, I feel more strongly than ever how important it is to master these principles.' Until you have learned them and practise^ them you cannot afford to discard them. There is alT&e^tiperence in the world between departure from recognised rules by one who has learned to obey them, and neglect of them through want of training

or want of skill or want of understanding. Before you can be eccentric you must know where the circle is.

This is accepted, I am told, even in shorthand, where the pupil acquires the knowledge of a number of signs,